

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephonic interview on January 10, 2006. The submission of the large substitute specification was discussed. Applicant's recollection is that it was agreed that a marked-up copy "showing all the changes relative to the immediate prior version of the specification of record," 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(c), can simply have all original material of the substitute specification underlined followed by all material of the specification as originally filed. Per the interview discussion, the original material is marked with two open brackets at its beginning and two close brackets at its end.

Applicant hereby states that the substitute specification contains no new matter, as evidenced by the detailed presentation of Exhibit A to this Response. That Exhibit contains a table "showing all the changes relative to the immediate prior version of the specification of record" in further compliance with Rule 125(c). The table lists each paragraph of the substitute specification and points out where that paragraph finds support in the specification of the application as originally filed. Applicant has attempted to have the table point out with mark-up formatting, and explain with notes, all changes between the original and substitute specifications. The Examiner is encouraged to review both the table and the specification as originally filed to confirm that no new matter is present, and the table includes specific references to that original specification in Page/Line format and by reference to Appendix Letter/Page.

For each row of the table, the leftmost column shows the paragraph in question, or ellipses ("...") if the row explains material continued in the same paragraph as the previous row. The middle column shows the material itself, with additions from the original text underlined and deletions indicated by strikethrough or brackets. The right column offers notes about such changes. Not marked in the table of Exhibit A are changes only in case (e.g., "paper" vs. "Paper"), insertion or removal of whitespace, and the use of the superscript instead of the caret ("^") in mathematical expressions.

To avoid possible confusion during a reading of paras. 0058-0083 of the substitute specification, applicant notes that he does not presently own the

SelfCertify.com domain name. No web site of that name either has been or currently is an actual entity performing the operations in the conjectural example offered in the specification.

Claim 1 stands rejected as anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,092,202 to Veil, et al. Applicant's claim calls for authentication of a digital signature key with a record that includes "an integrated combination of (1) indicia uniquely corresponding to the key, and (2) indicia of a covenant not to repudiate any digital signature made with the key except under specified conditions" (emphasis added). An owner of the key performs a "legally accepted execution of the record," whereby he or she enters into a "covenant with any bearer of the record not to repudiate any digital signature made with the key except under the specified conditions."

Veil discusses the use of a PIN on a smart card as making it "not . . . possible for someone to impersonate the smart card holder. As a result transactions performed by the smart card holder will be provable and the smart card holder cannot repudiate them," C11/L57-60. However, Veil's PIN is not indicia of a covenant not to repudiate, but merely his attempt at making the smart card itself more secure.

Applicant's claimed "integrated combination" requires, in addition to indicia of a digital signature key, other indicia of a covenant by which the key's owner explicitly covenants not to repudiate any digital signature made with the key except under specified conditions. Vail neither teaches nor suggests such. Accordingly, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

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Respectfully submitted,



Edwin A. Suominen
Reg. No. 43,174

14614 North Kierland Boulevard
Suite 300
Scottsdale, AZ 85254
(480) 948-3295

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

PLEASE ENTER, as FIGS. 1-21, eighteen new sheets of drawings, which contain formalized versions of certain drawings interspersed throughout the appendices of the application as originally filed.